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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

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THE FOL TEL FROM MOSCOW DATED FEB 6, 1974

TO SECSTATE WASHDC INFO CALCUTTA CINCPAC DACCA HONG KONG

JAKARTA KUALA LUMPUR LENNINGRAD LONDON MANILA NEW DELHI

PARIS PEKING RANGOON SAIGON TAIPEI TOKYO

IS REPTED:

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 1792

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CH, UR

SUBJECT: CHINA POTPOURRI: SPRATLIES, HILL TRIBES

AND THE CIA

1. SUMMARY: SOVIET PRESS IS USING FOREIGN PRESS
MATERIALS TO INDICATE WIDESPREAD CONCERN ABROAD OVER
POSSIBLE CHINESE RESORT TO FORCE IN ASSERTING CLAIMS
TO SPRATLY ISLANDS, THUS ADDING TO BELLIGERENT IMAGE
CREATED AS RESULT OF PARACELS MILITARY ACTIVITY.
SCENTING A GOOD PROPAGANDA OPENING, PRAVDA FINDS FURTHER
EVIDENCE OF CHINESE MISCHIEF IN PAST COVERT SUPPORT FOR
NAGA REBELS, NOW COMING TO LIGHT IN ACCOUNTS PROVIDED BY
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NAGA LEADERS WHO RALLIED TO INDIAN GOVERNMENT. CIA IS

ACCUSED OF COORDINATING WITH PEKING IN HILL-TRIBE AREAS,
AND IN SEPARATE ITEM IS FAULTED FOR "SUPPORTING"
CHINESE IRREDENTIST TERRITORIAL CLAIMS IN NEW CIA ATLAS
OF CHINA. END SUMMARY.

2. CENTRAL PRESS FEB. 6 CARRIES TASS COMPILATION OF
REPORTS ON SOUTH CHINA SEA ISLANDS, INCLUDING GVN
ANNOUNCEMENT OF SPRATLY PATROLS, PRC MFA STATEMENT ON
SPRATLIES, AND FOREIGN REACTIONS DATED IN DELHI,
MANILA, JAKARTA, KUALA LUMPUR AND WASHINGTON. MOST
PROMINENT OFFICIAL REACTION CITED IS THAT OF ADAM
MALIK, WHO SAID ASEAN COUNTRIES STUDYING PARACELS
SEIZURE AND THAT ISSUE SHOULD HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED TO
INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION. TASS ALSO CITES AP STORY
FROM WASHINGTON WHICH ASSERTS THAT HIGHLY PLACED U.S.
OFFICIALS ARE SOMEWHAT DISTURBED AND RAISING QUESTIONS
ABOUT PRC USE OF FORCE TO SOLVE TERRITORIAL MATTERS.
TASS GOES ON TO QUOTE AP SUGGESTION THAT U.S. CONCERN
EXTENDS TO QUESTION OF WHETHER PRC MIGHT USE MILITARY
MEANS TO ASSERT CLAIMS TO SENKAKU ISLANDS, CLAIMED BY
JAPAN. (THERE IS NO HINT OF SOVIET WORRY ABOUT ITS
OWN ISLAND TERRITORIAL DISPUTES WITH CHINA). SOVIET
TREATMENT OF SPRATLIES ISSUE NEGLECTS TO MENTION THAT
STANDARD SOVIET REFERENCE WORKS INDICATE ACCEPTANCE OF
PRC CLAIM TO THESE ISLANDS, AS IS THE CASE WITH PARACELS.

3. SEPARATE PRAVDA ARTICLE SAME DAY DRAWS TOGETHER
ACCOUNTS FROM INDIAN PRESS ABOUT EXTERNAL SUPPORT FOR
NAGA REBELS, BASED LARGELY ON STATEMENTS BY NAGAS WHO
HAVE RALLIED TO GOI IN RECENT MONTHS. CHIEF EMPHASIS
IS ON CHINESE COVERT SUPPORT INCLUDING SUPPLY OF
WEAPONS AND TRAINING OF THOUSANDS OF NAGA TRIBESMEN
IN YUNNAN PROVINCE SINCE 1966. ACCORDING TO PRAVDA'S
DELHI CORRESPONDENT SHEDROV, PEKING'S "GREAT-
POWER" POLICY WAS AIMED AT INCREASING TENSION, BUT
ADVENTURIST ACTIVITIES AGAINST INDEPENDENT NATIONS
OF SOUTH ASIA HAVE FAILED.

4. PRAVDA'S NAGA STORY ALSO DRAGS IN CIA, REPEATING
TALES FROM INDIAN PRESS ABOUT ALLEGED CIA AIM OF
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CREATING SEPARATE STATE IN NEFA REGION. IT REFERS TO
STATEMENTS BY BANGLADESH DIPLOMAT A. HAK (PHONETIC) WHO
CLAIMS HIS GOVERNMENT HAS "IRREFUTABLE PROOF" OF CIA
INVOLVEMENT IN SETTING UP HILL-TRIBE CAMPS DURING
BANGLADESH INDEPENDENCE STRUGGLE. SHEDROV WRAPS THE
WHOLE STORY UP WITH THE ASTOUNDING OBSERVATION THAT
PEKING AND THE CIA HAVE CLEARLY BEEN COORDINATING
ACTIVITIES IN ORGANIZING ANTI-GOVERNMENT ARMED

STRUGGLE BY NAGA, MIZO, KAREN AND OTHER TRIBES IN BURMA
AND BANGLADESH.

5. ANOTHER CASE OF LUMPING CIA AND PEKING TOGETHER IS
FOUND IN FEB. 6 LITERARY GAZETTE, WHICH CARRIES A SMALL
BLURB FROM INDIAN PRESS AGENCY ABOUT THE CIA ATLAS OF
CHINA. ITEM CLAIMS CIA HAS REPRINTED FAMOUS MAP FROM
CHINESE TEXTBOOK SHOWING LANDS WHICH HISTORICALLY
BELONGED TO CHINA, THUS "SUPPORTING" PRC CLAIMS TO
LAND NOW BELONGING TO MANY DIFFERENT ASIAN COUNTRIES
AND USSR.

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